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1842-0028

AUG 28 2006

REMARKS

The present application includes 44 claims that have been subject to a restriction requirement. The restriction is based upon nine allegedly distinct species corresponding to Figures 4, 6, 7, 8, 9a, 10, 11, 12 and 13, respectively. Applicants hereby provisionally elect Species VI drawn to Figure 10, with traverse.

It is believed that claims 1-8, 12-15, 18-30, 34, 37-39, and 42-44 are readable on the elected species. The remaining claims have been provisionally withdrawn with the understanding that they will be reinstated upon allowance of a generic claim. It is believed that at least claims 1-6, 18-26, 28-30, 34, 37-39 and 42-44 are generic to all of the identified species.

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the grounds that consideration of all species will not significantly affect the burden of examination. As indicated above, it is believed that 33 of the 44 are readable on the provisionally elected species and that 22 claims are generic to all species. The 11 claims that are directed to the non-elected species are dependent claims. Any prior art search sufficient to address the limitations of the 33 claims to the elected species will necessarily encompass the subject matter of the non-elected claims. It is therefore believed that all species and all claims should be considered.

Alternatively, Applicants suggest that the species of Figures 4, 6, 7, 8, 9a, and 11 are similar enough to warrant consideration with the provisionally elected species 10. The species utilize specially formed flow paths through the mixing

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apparatus, in contrast to the species of Figures 12 and 13 that rely upon elements traversing the central passageway through the apparatus.

Applicants request reconsideration of the species election requirement for the reasons set forth above. In the meantime, Applicants have provisionally elected Species VI drawn to Figures 10, and the corresponding claims 1-8, 12-15, 18-30, 34, 37-39, and 42-44. Favorable action toward allowance of these claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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